

REMARKS

Applicants have added claims 36-48. No new matter has been added by this amendment.

In the pending Office Action, the Examiner has rejected claims 1-17, 21, and 23-35 under 35 U.S.C §103(a) as being unpatentable over Chooi et al. (U.S. Patent 6,284,657).

With this response, Applicant has filed a Declaration under 37 C.F.R. 1.131 which establishes a date of invention at least prior to the effective prior art date of Chooi et al., which is February 25, 2000. Thus, Chooi et al. is not valid prior art, and hence the pending rejections should be withdrawn. Applicants submit that the pending claims are allowable over the prior art.

If there are any additional charges, please charge Deposit Account No 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: _____

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